



EQUIPMENT - FREEZER

INTRODUCTION

The freezer is used to store frozen products to maintain the products quality and to control bacteria growth. The freezers should be set to a temperature of -18°C .

There are many types of freezers:

- Walk-in freezer
- Upright freezer
- Chest freezer

The cleaning steps are essentially the same for all models. The freezers must be cleaned thoroughly at least once a week as per the DPSC.





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TWICE DAILY CHECKS

- **Wash & sanitize hands.**
 - Take the temperature with the temperature thermometer probe twice per day as per DPSC.
 - The actual temperature of the freezer must be checked to ensure that the temperature gauge matches the air temperature inside the freezer.
 - Check the temperature of all freezers before leaving the restaurant at night.
- **Place the thermometer on a shelf:**
 - Turn a clean container upside down and pierce with a calibrated thermometer.
 - Place the container with thermometer on shelf ensuring that the probe does not come into contact with shelving or product.
 - Close the door.
 - Let the temperature stabilize for 15 minutes.
 - Read the temperature:
 - The temperature reading should be -18°C and below.
 - Record temperature in the DPSC.
 - Contact maintenance if the temperature shown in the temperature gauge does not match the internal temperature of the walk-in freezer.

WEEKLY CLEANING

- **Remove products:**
 - Store all products in another freezer (if available), or
 - In the walk-in chiller for storage during cleaning.
- **Clean shelves:**
 - Turn the freezer 'OFF'.
 - Remove the shelves/platforms from the freezer.
 - Clean the shelves/platforms using 3-step cleaning method:
 - Scrub with multi-purpose cleaning solution
 - Rinse with water
 - Sanitize with sanitizing solution.
 - Allow to air dry.
- **Clean walls & ceilings:**
 - Scrub the walls with multi-purpose cleaning solution.
 - Use a towel dipped in multi-purpose cleaning solution to clean the ceiling.
 - Rinse the walls with hot water and wipe the ceiling with damp towel.
 - Sanitize ceiling and walls with towel dipped in sanitizing solution.
 - Allow to air dry.
- **Clean floor:**
 - Using a deck brush, scrub the floor with floor cleaner solution.
 - Rinse with water.
 - Mop dry.
- **Clean door gaskets/strip curtain:**
 - Clean the door gaskets using a clean towel dipped in multi-purpose cleaning solution.
 - Rinse with water.
 - Sanitize the gasket and strip curtain with sanitizing solution.



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- Replace shelves & products (follow FIFO).

OPERATING

- Store items approximately 5 cm (2 inches) away from walls to facilitate airflow.
- Do not put the freezer next to any heat sources such as fryers, stoves, etc. Also allow air to circulate right around a freestanding freezer.
- Store bags or cartons as recommended in the shelf. Over loading may cause the products to thaw and may also cause damage to the shelving.
- Use oldest product first (FIFO).
- Do not leave the door open for long periods of time to prevent frost from forming and accumulating.
- Always keep the floor dry after cleaning or after defrosting process to prevent ice build-up.
- Always check that the freezer doors are not left open before you leave the restaurant for the night.



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PROBLEM SOLVING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Freezer not operating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circuit-breaker 'OFF'• Thermostat setting wrong or faulty• Power cord/lead or plug faulty• Power cord/lead not plugged in	<p>Turn circuit-breaker 'ON'</p> <p>Reset or contact maintenance</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Plug in cord/lead</p>
Frost builds up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Door left open• Door gaskets/Hinge door handle faulty• Defrost system not working	<p>Keep the door closed after using</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p>
Products not frozen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circuit-breaker 'OFF'• Walk-in freezer strip curtain damaged/missing• Thermostat setting wrong or faulty• Power cord/lead or plug faulty• Too much product; stored incorrectly — air circulation affected• Ice built up on condensing coil and fins• Door gasket(s)/Hinge door handle faulty• Door left open• Gas leakage	<p>Turn circuit-breaker 'ON'</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Reset or contact maintenance</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Follow storage procedure and rearrange stock</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p> <p>Keep the door closed after entry/exit</p> <p>Contact maintenance</p>